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Report of the Adjutant-General

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Biennial report of the Adjutant-General … of Colorado 1868/1869-<1872/1873>, <1880/1881>, <1883/1884>-1889/1890; and

Report of the Adjutant General 1876

LLMC #: 00953t

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT-GENERAL

OF THE

TERRITORY OF COLORADO,

FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDING DEC. 31, 1869.

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY.

CENTRAL CITY

PRINTED BY D. C. COLLIER, AT THE REGISTER OFFICE.

1870

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TERRITORY OF COLORADO, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Central City, Dec. 31, 1869.

To His Excellency, E M McCook, Governor and Commander-in-Chief

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the biennial report of the Adjutant-General's Department, from Nov. 30th, 1867, to January 1st, 1870.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

HAL SAYR,
Adjutant-General, Colorado.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S REPORT.

TERRITORY OF COLORADO, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Central City, Dec. 31st, 1869.

To His Excellency, Edward M. McCook, Governor and Commander-in-Chief

SIR: In accordance with the requirements of law, I have the honor to submit my report of the Adjutant-General's Department, from November 30th, 1867, to January 1st, 1870.

TERRITORIAL MILITIA.

There are no organized militia within the Territory; nor do I think an organization could be perfected under our present law. This law has been in force since February 10th, 1865.

I know not what exertions were made by my predecessors to perfect an organization under it; but with the most strenuous endeavor on my part I have utterly failed to accomplish anything. Many reasons might be adduced for its inefficiency,

but the principal defect is a want of adequate compensation for services to the various officers whose duty it is to carry out its several provisions.

In the year 1868 I caused to be printed muster rolls, for the purpose of the enrolment of the militia, as provided in Article 2d, of the act approved February 10th, 1865. These rolls were duly distributed to the various officers as provided by said act; and of all the rolls so distributed *not one* was properly returned. For this reason—deeming it a useless expense—I did not distribute any this year; and being without the necessary information on this subject, I have not made the returns to the general government as required by the laws of the United States.

VOLUNTEER MILITIA.

Of volunteer militia there are none; at least nothing appears in my office that shows any such organizations to exist.

ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES.

Since my last report there have been received by the Territory as follows:

From Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. W. Wessells, U. S. A., as per invoice dated 28th August, 1868.

50 Springfield Breech L'ding R. Muskets, Cal. 50.
32 Firing Pins.
22 Friction Springs.
56 Main Springs.
56 Ejector Springs.
56 Sear Springs.
3000 Centre primed Cartridges, Cal. 50.
3 Arm Chests.
3 Packing Boxes.

Also as per invoice dated Sept. 5th, 1868:

40 Springfield Breech Loading R. Muskets, Cal. 50.
3000 Centre Primed Cartridges, Cal. 50.
2 Arm Chests.
3 Packing Boxes.

From Bvt. Lt. Col. E. B. Carling, U. S. A. as per invoice dated 9th Sept. 1868.

500 Springfield Rifle Muskets, Cal. 58.
2500 Paper ball Cartridges
500 Bayonets.
25 Arm Chests.
25 Packing Boxes.

From Bvt. Brig. Gen. B. C. Card, U. S. A. as per invoice dated October 10th, 1868.

500 Spencer Carbines, Mod. 1865, Cal. 50.
500 Brushwipers and Thongs.
500 Screw Drivers.
50 Wiping Rods.
150 Main Springs.
150 Tumbler Screws.
500 Spencer Rifles, Cal. 52, (no bayonets).
500 Brushwipers and Thongs, Rifle.
500 Screw Drivers, "
50 Wiping Rods, "
500 Carbine Slings.
500 " Swivels.
1000 Carbine Cartridge Boxes.
1000 Waist belts and Plates, Pv'tes.
50000 Spencer Carbine Cartridges, Cal. 50.
50000 " Rifle " " 52.
168 Packing Boxes.
31 Arm Chests.

On hand and accounted for at last report:
248 Warner Carbines.
17136 " " Cartridges.

Gives a Total of 590 S. R. Muskets.
" " " " 500 Spencer Carbines.
" " " " 500 " Rifles.
" " " " 248 Warner Carbines.
" " " " 6000 C. P. Cartridges, Cal. 50.
" " " " 25000 Paper Ball Cartridges, Cal. 58.
" " " " 50000 Spencer Carbine Cart's, Cal. 50.
" " " " 50000 " Rifles. " " 52.
" " " " 17136 Warner Carb's. "

There are now stored with Messrs. Lincoln & Strickler of Denver,

Ten (10) McClellan Saddles.
" (10) Saddle Blankets.
Eight (8) Bridles.
Thirteen (13) Spurs.
Seven (7) Nose Bags.
Six (6) Horse Brushes.
Eight (8) Curry Combs.

From the foregoing the following issues have been made:

APRIL, 1868.

To Wells Fargo & Co., Twelve (12) Warner Carbines.
To R. Sopris, Two (2) Carbines.

MAY, 1868.

To Wells Fargo & Co., Ten (10) Warner Carbines.

AUGUST, 1868.

To Morrison & Halleck, Six (6) Austrian Rifles.

To D. B. Baily, Seven (7) Warner Carbines and Eighteen hundred (1800) rounds of Ammunition.

To Henry Wendling, Fifteen (15) Warner Carbines and Six (6) Cases of Ammunition.

To John Ewing, Three (3) Warner Carbines and Thirty (30) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Joseph Rist, Two (2) Warner Carbines.

To Geo. V. M. Boutell, Ten (10) Warner Carbines and Seven hundred and twenty (720) Rounds of Ammunition. Also, Ten (10) Cartridge Boxes, (Two Guns returned).

To H. E. Austin, Five (5) Belgian Rifles.

To John Howard, Eight (8) Muskets.

To Wm. H. Lessig, Eight (8) Warner Carbines and Six (6) Cases of Ammunition.

To L. Doughty, Ten (10) Warner Carbines and Fifteen hundred (1500) Rounds of Ammunition.

To L. Doughty, Ten (10) Springfield Rifles, Five hundred and twenty (520) Rounds of Ammunition, and Twenty (20) Gun Slings and Swivels.

To E. M. Ashley, Two (2) Springfield Rifles and Five (5) Cases Ammunition.

SEPTEMBER, 1868.

To C. C. Gird, Two (2) Springfield Rifles and One hundred and sixty (160) Rounds of Ammunition.

To John B. Van Tuyle, Six (6) Springfield Muskets and Three hundred (300) Rounds of Ammunition.

To D. P. Curby, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To P. P. Wilcox, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Geo. W. Snell, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To D. C. Maxson, Three (3) Springfield Muskets and One hundred and fifty (150) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Andrew Nichols, One (1) Gun and Fifty (50) Rounds of Ammunition.

To E. T. Stone, Thirty (30) Springfield Muskets and Two thousand One hundred (2100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To A. D. Wilson and G. A. Lord, Two Warner Carbines, Four (4) Cases of Ammunition and Three (3) Springfield Rifles and Two hundred (200) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Frederick Bortriff, Twenty (20) Springfield Rifles and One thousand (1000) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Thomas Fakey and John Kennedy, Five (5) Springfield Rifles and Two hundred and fifty (250) Rounds of Ammunition.

To J. T. Van Houten, Two (2) Springfield Rifles and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Robert Hawkez, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Wm. Jones, Four (4) Springfield Muskets and Two hundred (200) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Asa H. Pangborn, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Thomas S. Kerritt, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To H. T. Vandermark, One (1) Springfield Musket and Fifty (50) Rounds of Ammunition.

To H. T. Bartells & Co. Seven (7) Springfield Muskets and Three hundred (300) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Wm. Nash, Three (3) Springfield Muskets and One hundred and fifty (150) Rounds of Ammunition.

To J. G. Moore, Three (3) Springfield Muskets and One hundred and fifty (150) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Wm. H. Bassett and Henry Augustine, Twenty (20) Springfield Muskets and One thousand [1000] Rounds of Ammunition.

To Henry Allshouse and Windexter Massey, Four (4) Springfield Muskets and Two hundred (200) Rounds of Ammunition.

To J. B. Duncan, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To James Murphy, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To R. S. Little, Twenty (20) Springfield Muskets and One thousand [1000] Rounds of Ammunition.

To E. T. Stone, Ten (10) Warner Carbines and Five hundred (500) Rounds of Ammunition; also Eight hundred and eighty (880) Needle Gun Cartridges.

To W. B. O. Skelton, Five (5) Springfield Muskets and Two hundred and fifty (250) Rounds of Ammunition.

To H. Willinktler, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Gideon C. Pratt, Fifteen (15) Springfield Muskets and Seven hundred and fifty (750) Rounds of Ammunition.

To C. A. Deane, One (1) Warner Carbine and Forty-two (42) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Geo. Long, Three (3) Springfield Muskets and One hundred and fifty (150) Rounds of Ammunition.

To J. W. Davis, four [4] Springfield muskets and two hundred [200] rounds of ammunition.

To G. W. Perkins, Six (6) Springfield Muskets and Three hundred (300) Rounds of Ammunition.

To W. A. Helen, Twenty (20) Springfield Muskets and One thousand (1000) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Charles Ruter, Fifteen (15) Springfield Muskets and Seven hundred and fifty (750) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Philip Cranshaw, One (1) Springfield Musket and Fifty (50) Rounds of Ammunition.

To J. M. Brown, Four (4) Springfield Muskets and Two hundred (200) Rounds of Ammunition.

To L. Cropper & Buzzard, Ten (10) Guns and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To E. J. Baldridge and M. Norton, Four (4) Springfield Muskets and Two hundred (200) Rounds of Ammunition.

To B. N. Sanford and Geo. J. Barnett, Two (2) Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Peter Diepl, Six (6) Springfield Muskets and Three hundred (300) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Geo. Aux, One (1) Springfield Musket and Fifty (50) Rounds of Ammunition.

To Jackson Farley, Ten (10) Springfield Muskets and Five hundred Rounds of Ammunition.

To James Craig, Ten (10) Springfield Muskets and Five hundred (500) Rounds of Ammunition.

To D. W. Field, Two [2] Springfield Muskets and One hundred (100) Rounds of Ammunition.

To D. T. Wolf and C. Manhart, Ten (10) Springfield Rifles and Three hundred (300) Rounds of Ammunition.

To D. M. Holden, M. J. Dougherty, Geo. Aux and L. Hayden, Sixty (60) Springfield Muskets and Four thousand (4000) Rounds of Ammunition.

To H. P. Bennett, Four (4) Springfield Muskets, One (1) Warner Carbine, Three hundred and twenty [320] Rounds of Ammunition; also Three [3] Slings and Swivels.

To Wm. Van Emtert and F. A. Brocker, Eight [8] Springfield Muskets and Four hundred (400) Rounds of Ammunition.

To James Torrance, Four (4) Austrian Rifles, Fifteen [15] Springfield Rifles, One thousand (1000) Rounds of Ammunition, Four (4) Warner Carbines and accoutrements and Three hundred and fifty (350) Rounds of Ammunition.

To David Gregory, Four (4) Springfield Muskets and Two hundred (200) Rounds of Ammunition.

To E. H. Starrett, for D. & S. F. S. I., thirty (30) muskets and fifteen hundred (1500) rounds of ammunition, sixteen (16) guns returned; also twenty (20) Spencer carbines and five hundred (500) rounds of ammunition; also three (3) Warner carbines and two hundred (200) rounds of ammunition.

To A. Dolan, five hundred (500) Warner carbine cartridges, to be delivered to M. M. Delano.

To Wm. B. Palmer, ten (10) Warner carbines and accoutrements.

To Gideon C. Pratt, ten (10) Springfield rifles and six hundred (600) rounds of ammunition; also one hundred and sixty-eight (168) Spencer cartridges.

To J. H. Craig, ten (10) Springfield rifles and five hundred (500) rounds of ammunition.

To Edwin Scudder and Geo. W. Redman, five (5) Springfield rifles and two hundred and fifty (250) rounds of ammunition.

To Alonzo Weltz, five (5) Austrian rifles.

To W. T. Davenport, five (5) Austrian rifles, five (5) Springfield rifles and two hundred (200) rounds of ammunition.

To Joseph Oaks, two Warner Carbines and accoutrements.

To W. H. Gunner ten (10) Springfield rifles and eight (8) cases of ammunition; also five [5] Austrian rifles and five [5] cases of Warner carbine cartridges.

To M. M. Delano, five [5] Warner carbines, ten [10] slings and swivels and five [5] cartridge boxes; also one [1] Springfield rifle and eighty [80] rounds of ammunition.

To G. J. Ross, two [2] Austrian rifles.

OCTOBER, 1868.

To A. J. Templeton, ten [10] Springfield muskets and five hundred [500] rounds of ammunition.

To Londoner & Bro. twenty [20] Springfield muskets and one thousand [1000] rounds of ammunition, to be delivered to G. M. Chilcott.

To G. M. Chilcott, sixty [60] Springfield muskets and three thousand [3000] rounds of ammunition.

To Redwood Fisher, one [1] needle gun.

To Thomas S. Wells, one [1] needle gun accoutrements and sixty [60] rounds of ammunition.

NOVEMBER, 1868.

To Wm. Rankin, six [6] Springfield muskets for G. A. R. Post No. 3.

To M. M. Delano, two hundred and fifty-four [254] Spencer cartridges.

DECEMBER, 1868.

To John H. McMurdy, for G. A. R. Post No. 2, six [6] Springfield muskets and six [6] bayonets.

JANUARY, 1869.

To Elizabeth Kelly, two [2] Springfield muskets.

APRIL, 1869.

To G. A. R. Denver, ten [10] Springfield rifles and ten [10] bayonets.

To Daniel Sayer, for G. A. R. Denver, four [4] Springfield muskets.

To F. J. Cram, one [1] Warner carbine.

JUNE, 1869.

To J. H. Morrison, twenty [20] Spencer rifles and one thousand [1000] rounds of ammunition.

JULY, 1869.

To H. P. Bennett, two [2] Springfield rifles and eighty [80] rounds of ammunition.

To M. D. Clifford, seven [7] Springfield rifles.

To D. H. Goodwin, two [2] Springfield rifles.

To John E. Clark, four [4] Spencer rifles and two hundred [200] rounds of ammunition.

AUGUST, 1869.

To Phelps, Biggs & Co., ten [10] Springfield muskets.

Clements & Bush, twelve [12] muskets.

Other issues have been made, but neither invoices of, nor receipts for the same have been received by me.

THE INDIAN WAR OF 1868.

About the middle of August, 1868, there was a general uprising of the Indians inhabiting that part of our Territory lying east of the mountains. This uprising was doubtless preconcerted, as the attack was almost simultaneous throughout the whole country.

Dispatches flowed in upon Secretary Hall, then Acting Governor (Gov. Hunt being absent), from all parts of the Territory, asking assistance and arms, and giving details of outrages committed by the Indians.

To grant assistance was almost impossible, as there was not an organized company of militia within the Territory, and by the time a force could have been organized and equipped, the Indians would have done all the damage in their power, and placed hundreds of miles of distance between themselves and the scenes of their depredations.

All the arms of the Territory, consisting of a few hundred worthless Austrian rifles, and less than one hundred Warner carbines, were distributed among the settlers at the most exposed points.

Requisitions were at once made on the general government for arms and ammunition, which requisitions were filled, as shown by the report under the head of "Ordnance and Ordnance Stores."

Companies of volunteers were organized at several points within the Territory, who went in pursuit of the Indians, in several cases coming upon and giving them battle, and resulting in the killing of perhaps thirty or forty of the Indians.

Gov. Hall was strongly importuned to call out the militia, but for reasons hereinafter given, this he very wisely refused to do, and dispatched Gen. Sheridan, then at Fort Leavenworth, the state of affairs, as follows:

DENVER, C. T., Aug. 25, 1868.

To Major Gen. P. H. Sheridan, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas:

A war party of Arapahoe Indians numbering about two

hundred, is traversing southern Colorado, committing all kinds of depredations, maltreating citizens, stealing stock, and stopping travel. My information is perfectly reliable. Gov. Hunt is absent. I shall go to the scene of trouble to-morrow. Please give me authority to call on Fort Reynolds for detachments of troops to check them, if found necessary.

(Signed) FRANK HALL,
Acting Governor, C. T.

The following was also sent on the following day:

DENVER, Aug. 28, 1868.

To Gen. P. H. Sheridan, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas:

The Arapahoes are killing settlers, destroying ranches in all directions. For God's sake give me authority to take your men from Reynolds.

I shall arm a party of volunteers to-morrow, and if they meet the Indians some of them will get killed; for the people are thoroughly roused and will not be restrained.

(Signed) FRANK HALL,
Acting Governor, C. T.

To these Gen. Sheridan replied as follows:

FORT HAYS, KANSAS, Aug. 27, 1868.

To Lieut. Gov. Frank Hall, Denver, C. T.

Your telegram received. You can call on the commanding officer at Fort Reynolds for troops; but this order is not to interfere with the company of the 7th Cavalry ordered to Fort Dodge.

(Signed) P. H. SHERIDAN, M. G.

In answer to similar dispatches, Gen. Sherman telegraphed as follows:

FORT SANDERS, Aug. 26, 1868.

To Frank Hall, Acting Governor:

Your dispatch of 7 p. m. received. You can organize your militia and defend the lives and property of your people.

The commanding officer of Fort Reynolds will act on the best information he receives. Communicate with Gen. Sheridan, who has the matter in charge.

What cause do you assign for this sudden change of conduct on the part of the Arapahoes?

(Signed) W. T. SHERMAN,
Lt. General.

The following order was issued by Gen. Sheridan, to commandant of Fort Reynolds:

FORT HAYS, KANSAS, Aug. 27, 1868.

To Commanding Officer, Fort Reynolds, Col. Ter..

Gov. Hall reports serious Indian troubles, and requests the use of the company of 7th Cavalry ordered to Dodge. Suspend the order and let him have the company.

By command of MAJ. GEN. SHERIDAN.
(Signed) J. SCHUYLER CROSBY, A. A. G.

The following dispatch to and answer from Gen. Sherman were also sent and received:

DENVER, C. T., Aug. 27, 1868.

To Lieut. Gen. Sherman, Fort Sanders:

We are completely surrounded by hostile Indians, extending from Cheyenne Wells to South Park, south, to Julesburg, north, estimated at six hundred warriors, divided into bands.

I have sent out sixty mounted men to points most seriously menaced. A woman and child, killed and scalped, brought to city last night. Reliable information of twelve people killed thus far. Wells, Fargo & Co., and all settlers have been stripped of stock. Stages fight their way through from Cheyenne Wells. Three men killed at Latham on Monday.

We have reports here that one Major North went hunting buffalo in or near Kansas a few days ago, drove buffalo in among Sioux and Arapahoes on reservation; Indians resisted, when North's party killed a number of Indians, when word was sent to all tribes, and they started on the war-path. Know nothing as to correctness of this rumor; published in Omaha papers.

I have ordered my men not to attack Indians, but to protect the defenceless only.

[Signed,] FRANK HALL,
Acting Governor.

FORT SANDERS, Aug. 27, '68.

To Gov. Hall:

Troops cannot reach you in time to meet present danger.

You need not restrict your people to pure defence, if certain the Indians are hostile.

It must be the Arapahoes that have attacked your parties; they have not six hundred warriors; not more than two hundred. The Cheyennes are down about Fort Laramie.

[Signed,] W. T. SHERMAN,
Lt. General.

Orders were issued by General Sheridan for the troops at Forts Reynolds and Lyon to co-operate with Colorado volunteers in suppression of hostilities. The following telegram of Gen. Sheridan to Gov. Hall, shows the force of government troops in the field:

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD,
Fort Hays, Kansas.

To His Excellency, Frank Hall, Acting Governor, C. T.:

Your dispatch received. Gen. Bradley is now at the fords of the Republican with eight companies, two of cavalry and six of infantry, and will scour the country as far as Kiowa.

The advance of seven companies of the Fifth Cavalry has arrived at Fort Harker, and as soon as they all arrive, will march via the forks of the Republican to your frontier at Kiowa. That will make fifteen (15) companies in that section. Four companies of Tenth Cavalry are under marching orders from Fort Dodge to Fort Lyon, to operate against the Indians from that point.

Captain Graham's company will soon be fitted up again, and with Carpenter's company of Tenth Cavalry, will have the line of stage road to Kiowa. Capt. Carpenter's company took Graham's place, and was on its march to Kiowa, when I had to direct it to the assistance of Col. Forsyth, who had a fight on the dry fork of the Republican with four hundred and fifty (450) Indians, in which he was twice wounded severely, Lieut. Beecher killed, and three men of his command killed and eighteen wounded. He killed thirty-five Indians and wounded a great many, but was unable to come in on account of his wounds, as he had no wagons, and all his horses were killed in the fight. A large number of Indian ponies were killed.

General Sully's command is still south of the Arkansas. He had a fight in which he killed seventeen Indians, losing three soldiers.

I am exceedingly sorry to have been unable to relieve the distress of the people of your frontier; but the fact of the case is, I have my hands full.

I hope the movement and presence of the forces above described will bring relief.

[Signed,] P. H. SHERIDAN,
Maj. Gen. U. S. A.

Everything that could be, was done, and about the middle of October hostilities within our borders had ceased. Acting Gov. Hall has been severely censured in some quarters for the means adopted by him at the time for the suppression of the Indian troubles, and soon after the cessation of hostilities he wrote an article giving a concise statement of the rise, progress, and policy adopted for the suppression of the same, which he intended for publication, but afterwards turned over to me to be placed on file in my office. I extract as follows:

"The war burst upon the country like a thunderbolt, paralyzing its energies and spreading consternation on every side. The savages came with the most earnest expressions of friendship on their lips, and bearing in their hands abundant testimonials of character, issued by the Laramie Peace Commission. The people always anxious for peace with the red men, because they have everything to lose and nothing to gain by war, received them with the utmost kindness, contributing to their wants from their domestic stores, and placing implicit reliance upon the guarantees furnished by the authorized agents of the general government.

The savages conducted themselves with propriety, quieting all apprehensions of the coming storm; distributed their forces so as to effectually cover every field of contemplated plunder, throttle every avenue of escape and render the blow when it should be struck the most deadly, destructive and terrible that had ever descended upon the western country. How well the plan succeeded is familiar to all, and its horrible details need not, therefore, be repeated.

A region of country one hundred and fifty miles square, teeming with the rich products of the soil, and subsisting innumerable herds of horses, sheep and cattle, was laid waste, houses burnt, people butchered, fields destroyed, and herds driven to the secret fastnesses of the Republican river to swell the number already there, obtained from many previous forays.

The settlers unarmed and in every way unprepared for this startling denouement, fled to the Capital, and laid their sad story before the executive. Nothing could be done to alleviate their distress except to issue arms and ammunition.

The supply of ordnance stores was small; these were issued immediately and efforts made to effect a thorough organization of the people inhabiting the exposed frontiers for the more efficient protection of their homes. Denver, ever patriotic and liberal, mounted and equipped fifty volunteers, who marched immediately to the field, but returned after nearly six days' absence, without having met the Indians in battle. Meanwhile Generals Sherman and Sheridan had been apprised of the situation by telegrams and letters. They promptly responded to my request for assistance. Col. Geo. A. Forsyth was dispatched to the Republican with a small force. He swept the valley for about one hundred miles, but finding no Indians, returned to Fort Wallace.

The day following his return, two scouts who had been sent by me to urge our necessities, reached the Fort and presented their dispatches, whereupon Col. Forsyth directed Capt. Graham with a company of colored cavalry to proceed up the Smoky Hill road as far as Kiowa and co-operate with any Colorado troops he might meet. Meantime the Col. himself marched a company of Kansas scouts numbering fifty-five, across to the Republican and up towards its head, intending to form a junction with Graham at Kiowa. Both officers met the enemy in battle and both were overpowered by superior numbers.

Col. Carpenter had been directed by General Sheridan to relieve Capt. Graham's crippled force and pursue the route prescribed by that officer, but was subsequently called to the relief of Col. Forsyth.

The critical situation of the frontier, exposed to constant desolation, rapine and murder, was a subject which engrossed every mind, and none more absolutely than mine. Turn which way I would the aspect was equally appalling, for without money, credit or arms, the country taxed almost beyond its capacity to bear, the United States authorities powerless to render assistance because destitute of armed forces requsite for the exigency, the war assuming proportions which promised to spread from Minnesota to Texas, with the Sioux, Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas and Comanches marshalling their warriors in battle order for a grand concentrated strike throughout the Territories, the Treasury empty and with the necessities for immediate defence daily accumulating, one might well be excused for reeling under the intolerable burden thus thrown upon him.

To convene the Legislature in extraordinary session, a measure frantically demanded by many would accomplish nothing. When organized, what could the members do? Certainly

no more to the purpose than to authorize the unlimited issue of scrip. In this the history of Montana during her last expensive effort to reduce her own turbulent tribes, would be repeated. Conceive the consternation that would prevail in our poverty-stricken money-market, when half a million dollars' worth of Territorial scrip should be suddenly thrown upon it. What would be the result? Probably ten, or at the most twenty cents on the dollar. Call the troops into service for three months, provide them with horses, and equipments for horse and rider, procure arms from the eastern arsenals, transportation and supplies through the slow process that would inevitably follow, and when all this should be done find winter covering the face of nature, the time for which the troops were mustered nearly expired, money exhausted, Indians fled, and the country saddled with a debt which ten or twenty years of unexampled prosperity could not cancel, and you have the accumulated product of a criminal and a stupid stretch of authority.

General Sherman, who is familiar with such operations writes me that the debt of Montana at this time from this cause alone is $1,500,000, which amount Congress has not assumed and will never pay. The interest alone, when added to our already heavy burdens, would crush a population much greater than ours."

MILITIA CLAIMS AGAINST UNITED STATES.

Of these claims I have no official intelligence since my last report.

HISTORY OF FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD REGIMENTS OF COLORADO VOLUNTEER CAVALRY.*

At the time of my appointment as Adjutant General, *nothing* had been done towards the compilation of this history.

Adjutant-General Tappan's report (unpublished) for the year 1866, states that complete muster-out rolls had been obtained of all but two (2) companies of these regiments; there were, however, as shown by my last report, muster-out rolls wanting for the whole of the First Regiment, companies "A" and "B" of the Second Regiment, and "D" of the Third Regiment. I have since received the missing roll of company "D" of the Third Regiment, and now have compiled the whole of

*As the foot-note at page 16 of my last report might lead to error as to what had been done in the matter of this history, as also in the matter of the disbursement of the fund created for its compilation, under act of Feb. 7, '66, I have given the exact status of the work and fund when it came to my hands.

the Third Regiment, and all but companies "A" and "B" of the Second Regiment.

There now remains to be compiled the history of the Veteran Battalion, First Colorado Cavalry, the muster-out rolls of which I have; this will of course give the history of those of the First Regiment who enlisted for a second term of service, leaving wanting all those who were discharged on expiration of term of first enlistment.

Cash Account Special Appropriation for procuring Military Record of the First, Second, and Third Regiments Colorado Volunteer Cavalry.

1866.			Dr.
March 2,	To	S. T. Hawkins, for table,	$11.00
" 2,	"	Drayage,	50
" 5,	"	" " removing books from old office	50
" 5,	"	Postage Stamps,	3.00
" 10,	"	Le Cavelier, work on table and desk,	34.00
" 11,	"	Kassler & Co., stationery and books,	16.70
" 12,	"	Cavanaugh, 3 chairs,	12.00
" 12,	"	Drayage " "	50
" 12,	"	" table and desk,	1.00
" 21,	"	Robinson for sign,	6.00
" 21,	"	Setting up "	2.00
" 29,	"	Postage Stamps,	3.00
" 29,	"	Letter Press, Table and Table Cloth,	35.00
April 30,	"	Postage Stamps,	3.00
May 31,	"	Woolworth & Moffat's bill,	14.50
" 31,	"	Le Cavelier for Book Case,	7.00
" 31,	"	Postage Stamps,	3.00
" 31,	"	Clerk hire,	145.00
July 25,	"	Postage,	3.20
Aug. 6,	"	Drayage of Ordnance Stores,	2.00
" 9,	"	Paid Clerk hire,	55.00
" 9,	"	S. F. Tappan, services in Washington,	50.00
" 10,	"	Paid Freight and Postage,	3.70
Sept. 15,	"	" large Record Books and services of agent in Washington,	160.00
" 15,	"	Rent of office to Jan. 1, 1867,	175.00
		Total,	$746.60

Thus leaving a balance when turned over to me of $253.40.

To complete the compilation of the history from the muster rolls now in my office, and reimburse to me moneys ex-

pended in prosecuting this work there should be an appropriation of about $200; and should the Legislature deem it advisable to *perfect* the history of these Regiments, a still further appropriation will be needed.

That this history should be perfected there can be no question, as it furnishes the evidence of meritorious service of men to many of whom or their friends bounties and pensions are due.

Many cases have come to my notice during my term of office where relatives often in needy circumstances wished to apply for pensions due them by reason of death of soldiers in our regiments; but owing to the want of the necessary evidence, could not procure them. In several cases I have succeeded in getting the required evidence from discharged soldiers and officers who served with the deceased.

In conclusion, I will direct the attention of your Excellency to that part of my last report under the head of "Militia Law," which is as applicable to the present, as to the time it was written.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon the necessity of having a force of four or five hundred well drilled and equipped men ready for service at a few hours' notice.

A bill drawn by myself and presented at the last Legislature by Mr. A. Bates, embodied the necessary provision for such a force, and would with some alterations and eliminations, I think, be as good a law as could be passed.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

HAL SAYR,

Adjutant-General Col. Ter.